

Phase I Reopening Guidance for Theaters and Museums in Response to COVID-19

May 8, 2020

Working together, Montanans have succeeded in limiting the person-to-person spread and impacts of COVID-19. This has presented an opportunity to begin a phased reopening of businesses that were previously required to be closed. Movie theaters and museums with untouchable exhibits are allowed to reopen with the following **requirements** for Phase One beginning **Friday, May 15, 2020**:

1. **Operate facility at 50% of capacity allowed by the fire marshal.**
 - a. **Interactive museums** (museums with sections that allow touch interactions with displays) and **live performance theaters must remain closed.**
 - b. Limit entry to museum gift shops to 50% of usual capacity.
2. **Post signage** identifying restrictions where guests can easily see it, such as on entry doors.
 - a. Use the following, or similar, wording on the signs: "Patrons with fever, shortness of breath, a cough, or other COVID-19 symptoms must refrain from using the facility."
3. **Maintain physical distancing.**
 - a. Maintain 6-foot separation between immediate parties (groups or individuals that arrive together.)
 - b. Control customer flow in a manner that maximizes physical distancing, such as with signage or ropes that directs flow in one direction.
 - c. Maintain 6-foot separation between families or immediate parties in lines.
 - d. Monitor and enforce physical distancing practices in theaters, and encourage additional distance between guests as appropriate.
4. **Routinely clean and sanitize** all frequently touched surfaces, including door handles, railings and seats.
 - a. Clean and sanitize restrooms no less than every two hours whenever possible.
 - b. Increase the time between events to allow for cleaning common surfaces, such as arm rests and railings.
 - c. Use the cleaning agents that you usually use in these areas, and follow the directions on the label.
 - d. A list of sanitizers effective for COVID-19 is located on the EPA website:
<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>. Be sure to strictly follow specified contact times and mix rates.

Lewis and Clark Public Health has the following **additional guidance** to help protect staff and guests from disease.

1. **Develop a written plan** to manage Phase One operations. Be sure to address any issues unique to your operations and location.
2. **Assess the health** of all employees at the beginning of each shift. Send home anyone with respiratory symptoms.
3. **Implement engineering controls** as appropriate for your business. This could include installing physical barriers, such as clear-plastic sneeze guards, between staff and customers at event cashier areas and food vendors.
4. **Support respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene** for employees and guests:
 - a. **Strongly encourage the use of cloth face masks** that fully cover the mouth and nose for employees and customers.
 - b. Provide tissues and no-touch disposal receptacles throughout the facility.
 - c. Provide hand-washing facilities with soap and water and single-use towels.
 - d. Place **hand sanitizers** with at least 60% alcohol at stations throughout the venue.

If you have questions or need technical assistance, please call Lewis and Clark Public Health at 457-8900. Thank you for protecting our community from COVID-19.

For a link to this document and other local information: www.lccountymt.gov/covid-19

If you suspect Coronavirus, contact your medical provider.